

REMARKS

Reconsideration is courteously requested.

Claims 1-16 are presently pending, claims 17-52 having been previously canceled, without prejudice, via preliminary amendment as non-elected subject matter. Claims 1 and 11 are independent claims.

Claims 1-11 have been amended for the sake of clarity, and new claim 53, an independent claim, added. Particularly now as amended, the claims emphasize that Applicant's reading product fabrication methodology enhances a presentation of text having an author specified text content and word order within the text content wherein the presentation includes only author specified text content. Finally, with regard to the claims, although not in agreement with the Examiner's position, it is submitted that the subject claim amendments overcome the alleged indefiniteness rejection of claims 1-16, namely, that the phrase "substantially maintaining," appearing in independent claims 1 and 11, is vague and indefinite.

With regard to the specification objections, Applicant has amended the title of the application to better reflect the invention, and has further updated the related application/patent data under the heading REFERENCE TO PRIOR APPLICATION. It is respectfully submitted that the specification now conforms to the rules of practice.

With regard to the OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY, Applicant observes that no objection or acceptance of the drawings is indicated, nor is a PTO-948 form provided. It is respectfully submitted that the drawings, as filed, conform with the rules of practice, and, having been published as part of U.S. Pat. Appl. Pub. No. 2002/0091713, should be acceptable in their present condition.

Prior to a discussion of the relied upon references, a statement regarding Applicant's field of endeavor, invention and claimed subject matter is warranted. As succinctly as possible, Applicant's invention is directed to a reading product fabrication methodology:

The invention adds meaningful visual attributes to enhance the presentation of computer displayed text above the constant and mechanical textual display of current systems. A meaningful visual cue is created that relates to the content of the new phrase and its relationship to the previous phrase.

Specification, p. 6, l. 4-8. Applicant particularly claims, e.g., claim 1, a reading product fabrication methodology which enhances a presentation of text having an author specified text content and word order within the text content **wherein the presentation includes only author specified text content**. In contradistinction, the relied upon references are directed to computer based language processing using a variety of symbols, lines and annotations superimposed upon author specified text content (van Zuijlen), teaching methods or drills for grammar, reading, and/or spelling (McCloskey and Gross et al.), or computational means for a user to

select, enlarge, rotate, and navigate towards subcomponents of a larger 3D landscape (Strasnick), subject matter quite strange in light of Applicant's teaching and claims.

Claims 1, 6-8, 10-13 & 16: van Zuijlen

van Zuijlen describes an approach to systematically identify and record the multiple possible syntactic representations of ambiguous sentences while performing the parsing process; condense the recorded information using new categories of annotation; and, then to efficiently represent these multiple syntactic analyses in annotated lists and graphical "structural syntactic networks." This is a far cry from Applicant's objective of providing a reading product fabrication methodology in furtherance of enhancing the reading experience.

Indicia (i.e., overt marks such as lines, figures, and symbols not found in the source, author specified text content) is added to the text by van Zuijlen, more particularly, adulterated author specified text, so as to "unambiguously code" same. The graphical display itself does not visually present, in an unambiguous manner, the author specified text content, instead, the inclusion of such indicia impedes, rather than improves the reading experience, see e.g., "Dog bites man in park near river," 16:8 et seq. whose coded graph structure is depicted in FIG. 13.

van Zuijlen solves his problem of how to improve the coding for the formal representation of sentences with multiple syntactic

analyses by, not surprisingly, creating yet more annotations and symbols to be used in the annotation and graphical displays, namely, "word index" and "interpretation index," "intermediate node," and "choice point." All of these additional annotations and symbols make the annotated lists and graphical displays even more distracting, cumbersome, and disruptive to the human act of perceiving, interpreting, and comprehending the natural language sequence of the words of the text. This alleged advance in the field of formal information representation teaches away from the non-annotative, mark-less process of autologous matrix generation, practiced and claimed by Applicant, to enhance text presentation, with van Zuijlen noting at 6:66 et seq.: "it is not possible to represent a graph directly in textual form." It simply does not occur to van Zuijlen that the text alone could be the graph. As van Zuijlen does not teach, or suggest, reading product fabrication in furtherance of enhancing the presentation of text, let alone, a methodology wherein the presentation includes only author specified text content, and is faithful to the author specified word order, it cannot render obvious Applicant's claimed subject matter, alone, or in combination with any other references of record.

Claims 2 & 9: van Zuijlen & McCloskey

McCloskey discloses thirty (FIGS. 1-30) individual models or elements which are grouped to show that each element fits into one of ten distinct sets. The elements of each set have been assigned

a distinct color scheme to differentiate them from elements of other sets. Each element of the elements of a given set are characteristically configured so as to represent a sentence part or part-of-speech, with each element further bearing functionality indicia thereon, e.g., a star (i.e., a noun (solid) or pronoun (hollow), Set 1), a wave (i.e., a verb, Set 2), a leaf (i.e., an adjective, Set 3), etc.) to further communicate or signal a student grammartarian.

The McCloskey approach is predicated upon assembly, namely the construction or reconstruction of, at most, a sentence: "The user interengages each element with other elements to form a phrase, clause, or sentence as an alternative to conventional sentence diagramming [sic]." (Abstract). This teaching, like that of van Zuijlen, has nothing to do with reading product fabrication. Moreover, in contradistinction to Applicant's claim requirement, McCloskey's color designation is fixed, not allowing for modification based on context or varying positions within the text, more particularly, different levels of syntactic hierarchies. For McCloskey, color is a set input, whereas for the Applicant, color is an output (i.e., a by-product of the text itself). This fact in and of itself overcomes the subject rejection.

Even if McCloskey's part-of-speech color assignment strategy were to be selectively combined with van Zuijlen's multiple types of syntactic labels for graphical syntactic trees, there would be

specific color assignments for many different types of parts of speech and syntactic relations; however, even with this combination, since the tags only pertain to the single hierarchical level between a particular governor and its dependent, the same color for such a relationship tag would be used repeatedly up and down through different levels of the syntactic hierarchical structure. In contradistinction, Applicant's reading product fabrication methodology is able to modulate the color assignment based on both the hierarchical level in which a particular word is found, and the type of relationship that exists between a "parent" and a "child" segment in the non-annotative, mark-less, autologenerative matrix.

Claims 3-5, & 15: van Zuijlen & Gross et al.

As a preliminary matter, Gross et al. is directed to a computerized tachistoscope, that is to say, an apparatus for the brief exposure of visual stimuli that is used in the study of learning, attention, and perception. This is arguably the antithesis of a reading product: how might flashing only discrete bits and pieces of text at a reader text be considered a presentation enhancement in furtherance of a positive, more enjoyable reading experience? Gross et al. is drilling, not reading.

With regard to the asserted combination, there is no suggestion or motivation to borrow from Gross et al. In

contradistinction to the coded syntactic network teaching of the primary reference, the Gross et al. tachistoscopic method of sequentially revealing word groups in isolation on the reading surface does not operate on the process of determining where to place the words of the text on the reading surface. There is no relationship between the subject matter of the selected references.

Claim 14: van Zuijlen & Strasnick et al.

Strasnick et al. provide a means to select a subsection of a landscape with a virtual "spotlight" cursor, which then takes that portion of the landscape and distorts its orientation and position relative to the remainder of the landscape as a whole, while still representing which part of the overall landscape the subsection was a part of. The use of linguistic information in Strasnick et al. is limited to labels that are assigned to the virtual geometrical objects in the display. These labels are shown on the "ground" in the landscape (FIGS. 1, 2A, 4A, and 4B), and well as on virtual "billboards" that sit on top of cubes (FIG. 4C). As such, Strasnick teaches away from having linguistic information itself differentiate the size, shape, position, and color of the landscape elements, and instead limits the use of text-based information to "label" the geometrical elements in the display, which, by contrast, have perceptual attributes that are generated by non-linguistic data. It is respectfully submitted that no person of ordinary skill in Applicant's art would turn to van Zuijlen for

embarking upon an improved reading fabrication product solution, let alone identify Strasnick et al. as being germane, let alone helpful, with the combination of the two being an improper hindsight deduction.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons above, it is respectfully submitted that the subject case, namely claims 1-16 and newly added claim 53, is in condition for allowance. Early reconsideration and favorable action are solicited.

Please charge any deficiencies or credit any over payment to Deposit Account 14-0620.

Respectfully submitted,

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By his attorney

Date

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